Mr. John Wilkins

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WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, eſtabliſh juſtice, inſure domeſtic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and ſecure the bleſſings of liberty to ourſelves and our poſterity, do ordain and eſtabliſh this conſtitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. ALL legiſlative powers herein granted ſhall be veſted in a Congreſs of the United States, which ſhall conſiſt of a ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives.

Sect. 2. The houſe of repreſentatives ſhall be compoſed of members choſen every ſecond year by the people of the ſeveral ſtates, and the electors in each ſtate ſhall have the qualifications requiſite for electors of the moſt numerous branch of the ſtate legiſlature.

No perſon ſhall be a repreſentative who ſhall not have attained to the age of 25 years, and been ſeven years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate in which he ſhall be choſen.

Repreſentatives and direct taxes ſhall be apportioned among the ſeveral ſtates which may be included within this union, according to their reſpective numbers, which ſhall be determined by adding to the whole number of free perſons, including thoſe bound to ſervice for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other perſons. The actual enumeration ſhall be made within three years after the firſt meeting of the Congreſs of the United States, and within every ſubſequent term of ten years in ſuch manner as they ſhall by law direct. The number of repreſentatives ſhall not exceed one for every thirty thouſand, but each ſtate ſhall have at leaſt one repreſentative: and until ſuch enumeration ſhall be made, the ſtate of New Hampſhire ſhall be entitled to chuſe three, Maſſachuſetts eight, Rhode-Iſland and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York ſix, New-Jerſey four, Pennſylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland ſix, Virginia ten, North-Carolina five, South-Carolina five, & Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the repreſentation from any ſtate, the executive authority thereof ſhall iſſue writs of election to fill ſuch vacancies.

The houſe of repreſentatives ſhall chuſe their ſpeaker and other officers; and ſhall have the ſole power of impeachment.

Sect. 3. The ſenate of the United States ſhall be compoſed of two ſenators from each ſtate, choſen by the legiſlature thereof, for ſix years; and each ſenator ſhall have one vote.

Immediately after they ſhall be aſſembled in conſequence of the firſt election, they ſhall be divided as equally as may be into three claſſes. The ſeats of the ſenators of the firſt claſs ſhall be vacated at the expiration of the ſecond year, of the ſecond claſs at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third claſs at the expiration of the ſixth year, ſo that one-third may be choſen every ſecond year: and if vacancies happen by reſignation, or otherwiſe, during the receſs of the legiſlature of any ſtate, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legiſlature, which ſhall then fill ſuch vacancies.

No perſon ſhall be a ſenator who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate for which he ſhall be choſen.

The vice preſident of the United States ſhall be preſident of the ſenate, but ſhall have no vote unleſs they be equally divided.

The ſenate ſhall chuſe their other officers, and alſo a preſident pro tempore, in the abſence of the vice preſident, or when he ſhall exerciſe the office of preſident of the United States.

The ſenate ſhall have the ſole power to try all impeachments. When ſitting for that purpoſe they ſhall be on oath or affirmation. When the preſident of the United States is tried, the chief juſtice ſhall preſide; and no perſon ſhall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members preſent.

Judgment in caſes of impeachment ſhall not extend further than to removal from office, and diſqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, truſt or profit under the United States; but the party convicted ſhall nevertheleſs be liable

ment, trial, judgment and puniſhment, according to law.

Sect. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for ſenators and repreſentatives, ſhall be preſcribed in each ſtate by the legiſlature thereof; but the Congreſs may at any time by law make or alter ſuch regulations, except as to the places of chuſing ſenators.

The Congreſs ſhall aſſemble at leaſt once in every year, and ſuch meeting ſhall be on the firſt Monday in December, unleſs they ſhall by law appoint a different day.

Sect. 5. Each houſe ſhall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each ſhall conſtitute a quorum to do buſineſs, but a ſmaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authoriſed to compel the attendance of abſent members, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch penalties as each houſe may provide.

Each houſe may determine the rules of its own proceedings, puniſh its own members for diſorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each houſe ſhall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publiſh the ſame, excepting ſuch parts as may in their judgment require ſecrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either houſe on any queſtion ſhall, at the deſire of one-fifth of thoſe preſent, be entered on the journal.

Neither houſe, during the ſeſſion of Congreſs, ſhall without the conſent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houſes ſhall be ſitting.

Sect. 6. The ſenators and repreſentatives ſhall receive a compenſation for their ſervices, to be aſcertained by law, and paid out of the treaſury of the United States. They ſhall in all caſes, except treaſon, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arreſt, during their attendance at the ſeſſion of their reſpective houſes, and in going to and returning from the ſame; and for any ſpeech or debate in either houſe they ſhall not be queſtioned in any other place.

No ſenator or repreſentative ſhall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which ſhall have been created, or the emoluments whereof ſhall have been encreaſed during ſuch time; and no perſon holding any office under the United States, ſhall be a member of either houſe during his continuance in office.

Sect. 7. All bills for raiſing revenue ſhall originate in the houſe of repreſentatives; but the ſenate may propoſe or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Every bill which ſhall have paſſed the houſe of repreſentatives and the ſenate, ſhall, before it become a law, be preſented to the preſident of the United States; if he approve he ſhall ſign it, but if not he ſhall return it, with his objections to that houſe in which it ſhall have originated, who ſhall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconſider it. If after ſuch reconſideration two thirds of that houſe ſhall agree to paſs the bill, it ſhall be ſent, together with the objections, to the other houſe, by which it ſhall likewiſe be reconſidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that houſe, it ſhall become a law. But in all ſuch caſes the votes of both houſes ſhall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the perſons voting for and againſt the bill ſhall be entered on the journal of each houſe reſpectively. If any bill ſhall not be returned by the preſident within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it ſhall have been preſented to him, the ſame ſhall be a law, in like manner as if he had ſigned it, unleſs the Congreſs, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which caſe it ſhall not be a law.

Every order, reſolution or vote to which the concurrence of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, may be neceſſary (except on a queſtion of adjournment) ſhall be preſented to the preſident of the United States and before the ſame ſhall take effect, ſhall be approved by him, or, being diſapproved by him, ſhall be repaſſed by two-thirds of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, according to the rules and limitations preſcribed in the caſe of a bill.

Sect. 8. The Congreſs ſhall have power

To lay and collect taxes, duties, impoſts and exciſes, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence

ties, impoſts and exciſes ſhall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the ſeveral ſtates, and with the Indian tribes;

To eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the ſtandard of weights and meaſures;

To provide for the puniſhment of counterfeiting the ſecurities and current coin of the United States.

To eſtabliſh poſt offices and poſt roads;

To promote the progreſs of ſcience and uſeful arts, by ſecuring for limited times to authors and inventors the excluſive right to their reſpective writings and diſcoveries;

To conſtitute tribunals inferior to the ſupreme court.

To define and puniſh piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, and offences againſt the law of nations.

To declare war, grant letters of marque and repriſal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water.

To raiſe and ſupport armies, but no appropriation of money to that uſe ſhall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, ſuppreſs inſurrections and repel invaſions;

To provide for organizing, arming and diſciplining the militia, and for governing ſuch part of them as may be employed in the ſervice of the United States, reſerving to the ſtates reſpectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the diſcipline preſcribed by Congreſs;

To exerciſe excluſive legiſlation in all caſes whatſoever, over ſuch diſtrict (not exceeding ten miles ſquare) as may, by ceſſion of particular ſtates, and the acceptance of Congreſs, become the ſeat of the government of the United States, and to exerciſe like authority over all places purchaſed by the conſent of the legiſlature of the ſtate in which the ſame ſhall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arſenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings;---And

To make all laws which ſhall be neceſſary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers veſted by this conſtitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sect. 9. The migration or importation of ſuch perſons as any of the ſtates now exiſting ſhall think proper to admit, ſhall not be prohibited by the Congreſs prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight but a tax or duty may be impoſed on ſuch importation not exceeding ten dollars for each perſon.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus ſhall not be ſuſpended, unleſs when in caſes of rebellion or invaſion the public ſafety may require it.

No bill of attainder or ex poſt facto law ſhall be paſſed.

No capitation, or other direct tax ſhall be laid, unleſs in proportion to the cenſus or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty ſhall be laid on articles exported from any ſtate. No preference ſhall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one ſtate over thoſe of another: nor ſhall veſſels bound to, or from, one ſtate, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money ſhall be drawn from the treaſury, but in conſequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular ſtatement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money ſhall be publiſhed from time to time.

No title of nobility ſhall be granted by the United States:---And no perſon holding any office of profit or truſt under them, ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, accept of any preſent, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign ſtate.

Sect. 10. No ſtate ſhall enter into any treaty repriſal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and ſilver coin a tender in payment of debts; paſs any bill of attainder, ex poſt facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, lay any impoſts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be abſolutely neceſſary for executing its inſpection laws; and the net produce of all duties and impoſts, laid by any ſtate on imports or exports, ſhall be for the uſe of the treaſury of the United States; and all ſuch laws ſhall be ſubject to the reviſion and controul of the Congreſs. No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of Congreſs, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ſhips of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another ſtate, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unleſs actually invaded, or in ſuch imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

II.

Sect. 1. The executive power ſhall be veſted in a preſident of the United States of America. He ſhall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the vice preſident, choſen for the ſame term, be elected as follows:

Each ſtate ſhall appoint, in ſuch manner as the legiſlature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of ſenators and repreſentatives to which the ſtate may be entitled in the Congreſs; but no ſenator or repreſentative, or perſon holding an office of truſt or profit under the United States, ſhall be appointed an elector.

The electors ſhall meet in their reſpective States, and vote by ballot for two perſons, of whom one at leaſt ſhall not be an inhabitant of the ſame ſtate with themſelves. And they ſhall make a liſt of all the perſons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which liſt they ſhall ſign and certify, and tranſmit ſealed to the ſeat of the government of the United States, directed to the preſident of the ſenate. The preſident of the ſenate ſhall, in the preſence of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, open all the certificates, and the votes ſhall then be counted. The perſon having the greateſt number of votes ſhall be the preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have ſuch majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the houſe of repreſentatives ſhall immediately chuſe by ballot one of them for preſident; and if no perſon have a majority, then from the five higheſt on the liſt the ſaid houſe ſhall in like manner chuſe the preſident. But in chuſing the preſident, the votes ſhall be taken by ſtates, the repreſentation from each ſtate having one vote; a quorum for this purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of a member or members from two-thirds of the ſtates, and a majority of all the ſtates ſhall be neceſſary to a choice. In every caſe, after the choice of the preſident, the perſon having the greateſt number of votes of the electors ſhall be vice preſident. But if there ſhould remain two or more who have equal votes, the ſenate ſhall chuſe from them by ballot the vice preſident.

The Congreſs may determine the time of chuſing the electors, and the day on which they ſhall give their votes; which day ſhall be the ſame throughout the United States.

No perſon except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be eligible to the office of preſident; neither ſhall any perſon be eligible to that office who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a reſident within the United States.

In caſe of the removal of the preſident from office, or of his death, reſignation, or inability to diſcharge the powers and duties of the ſaid office, the ſame ſhall devolve on the vice-preſident, and the Congreſs may by law provide for the caſe of removal, death, reſignation, or inability, both of the preſident and vice-preſident, declaring what officer ſhall then act as preſident, and ſuch officer ſhall then act accordingly, until the diſability be removed, or a preſident be elected.

The preſident ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for his ſervices, a compenſation, which ſhall neither be encreaſed nor diminiſhed during the period for which he ſhall have been elected, and he ſhall not receive, within that period, any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he ſhall take the following oath or affirmation:

" I do ſolemnly ſwear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of preſident of the United States, and will to the beſt of my ability, preſerve, protect, and defend the conſtitution of the United States."

Sect. 2. The preſident ſhall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the ſeveral States, when called into the actual ſervice of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any ſubject relating to the duties of their reſpective offices, and he ſhall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences againſt the United States, except in caſes of impeachment.

He ſhall have power, by and with the advice and conſent of the ſenate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the ſenators preſent concur; and he ſhall nominate, and by and with the advice and conſent of the ſenate, ſhall appoint ambaſſadors, other public miniſters, and conſuls, judges of the ſupreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whoſe appointments are not herein otherwiſe provided for, and which ſhall be eſtabliſhed by law. But the Congreſs may by law veſt the appointment of ſuch inferior officers, as they ſhall think proper, in the preſident alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The preſident ſhall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the receſs of the ſenate, by granting commiſſions which ſhall expire at the end of their next ſeſſion.

Sect. 3. He ſhall from time to time give to the Congreſs information of the ſtate of the union, and recommend to their conſideration ſuch meaſures as he may judge neceſſary and expedient: he may, on extraordinary occaſions, convene both houſes or either of them, and in caſe of diſagreement between them, with reſpect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to ſuch time as he ſhall think proper; he ſhall receive ambaſſadors and other public miniſters; he ſhall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and ſhall commiſſion all the officers of the United States.

Sect. 4. The preſident, vice preſident, and all civil officers of the United States, ſhall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treaſon, bribery, or other high crimes and miſdemeanors.

III.

Sect. 1. The judicial power of the United States, ſhall be veſted in one ſupreme court, and in ſuch inferior courts as Congreſs may from time to time ordain and eſtabliſh. The judges, both of the ſupreme and inferior courts, ſhall hold their offices during good behaviour, and ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for their ſervices, a compenſation which ſhall not be diminiſhed during their continuance in office.

Sect. 2. The judicial power ſhall extend to all caſes in law and equity, ariſing under this conſtitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under their authority; to all caſes affecting ambaſſadors, or other public miniſters and conſuls; to all caſes of admiralty and maritime juriſdiction; to controverſies in which the United States ſhall be a party; to controverſies between two or more ſtates, between a ſtate and citizens of another ſtate, between citizens of different ſtates, between citizens of the ſame ſtate claiming lands under grants of different ſtates, and between a ſtate, or the citizens thereof, and foreign ſtates, citizens, or ſubjects.

In all caſes affecting ambaſſadors, other public miniſters, and conſuls, and thoſe in which a ſtate ſhall be party, the ſupreme court ſhall have original juriſdiction. In all the other caſes beforementioned, the ſupreme court ſhall have appellate juriſdiction, both as to law and fact, with ſuch exceptions, and under ſuch regulations as the Congreſs ſhall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in caſes of impeachment, ſhall be by jury; and ſuch trial ſhall be held in the ſtate where the ſaid crimes ſhall have been committed; but when not committed within any ſtate, the trial ſhall be at ſuch place or places as the Congreſs may by law have directed.

Sect. 3. Treaſon againſt the United States, ſhall conſiſt only in levying war againſt them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No perſon ſhall be convicted of treaſon unleſs on the teſtimony of two witneſſes to the ſame overt act, or on confeſſion in open court.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to declare the puniſhment of treaſon, but no attainder of treaſon ſhall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the perſon attainted.

IV.

Sect. 1. Full faith and credit ſhall be given in each ſtate to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other ſtate. And the Congreſs may, by general laws, preſcribe the manner in which ſuch acts, records and proceedings ſhall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sect. 2. The citizens of each ſtate ſhall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the ſeveral ſtates.

A perſon charged in any ſtate with treaſoa, felony, or other crime, who ſhall flee from juſtice, and be found in another ſtate, ſhall, on demand of the executive authority of the ſtate from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the ſtate having juriſdiction of the crime.

No perſon held to ſervice or labour in one ſtate, under the laws thereof, eſcaping into another, ſhall in conſequence of any law or regulation therein, be diſcharged from ſuch ſervice or labour, but ſhall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom ſuch ſervice or labour may be due.

Sect. 3. New ſtates may be admitted by the Congreſs into this union; but no new ſtate ſhall be formed or erected within the juriſdiction of any other ſtate; nor any ſtate be formed by the junction of two or more ſtates, or parts of ſtates, without the conſent of the legiſlatures of the ſtates concerned as well as of the Congreſs.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to diſpoſe of and make all needful rules and regulations reſpecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this conſtitution ſhall be ſo conſtrued as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular ſtate.

Sect. 4. The United States ſhall guarantee to every ſtate in this union a republican form of government, and ſhall protect each of them againſt invaſion; and on application of the legiſlature, or of the executive (when the legiſlature cannot be convened) againſt domeſtic violence,

V.

The Congreſs, whenever two-thirds of both houſes ſhall deem it neceſſary, ſhall propoſe amendments to this conſtitution, or, on the applications of the legiſlatures of two-thirds of the ſeveral ſtates, ſhall call a convention for propoſing amendments, which, in either caſe, ſhall be valid to all intents and purpoſes, as [illegible] of this conſtitution, when ratified by the legiſlatures of three-fourths of the ſeveral ſtates, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be propoſed by the Congreſs; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight ſhall in any manner affect the firſt and fourth clauſes in the ninth ſection of the firſt article; and that no ſtate, without its conſent, ſhall be deprived of its equal ſuffrage in the ſenate.

VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be as valid againſt the United States under this conſtitution as under the confederation.

This conſtitution, and the laws of the United States which ſhall be made in purſuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under the authority of the United States, ſhall be the ſupreme law of the land; and the judges in every ſtate ſhall be bound thereby, any thing in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The ſenators and repreſentativies beforementioned, and the members of the ſeveral ſtate legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and the ſeveral ſtates, ſhall be bound by oath or affirmation, to ſupport this conſtitution; but no religious teſt ſhall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public truſt under the United States.

VII.

The ratifications of the conventions of nine ſtates, ſhall be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of this conſtitution between the ſtates ſo ratifying the ſame.

DONE in Convention, by the unanimous conſent of the ſtates preſent, the ſeventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witneſs whereof we have hereunto ſubſcribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident,
And Deputy from Virginia.

New-Hampſhire.---John Langdon, Nicholas Gilman.

Maſſachuſetts.--Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King.

Connecticut.--William Samuel Johnſon, Roger Sherman.

New-York.---Alexander Hamilton.

New-Jerſey.---William Livingſton, David Brearley, William Paterſon, Jonathan Dayton.

Pennſylvania.---Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Mifflin, Robert Morris, George Clymer, Thomas Fitzſimons, Jared Ingerſoll, James Wilſon, Gouverneur Morris.

Delaware.---George Read, Gunning Bedford, junior, John Dickinſon, Richard Baſſetr, Jacob Broom.

Maryland.---James M'Henry, Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer, Daniel Carrol.

Virginia.---John Blair, James Madiſon, junior.

North Carolina.---William Blount, Richard Dobbs Spaight, Hugh Williamſon.

South-Carolina.---John Rutledge, Charles Coteſworth Pinckney, Charles Pinckney, Pierce Butler.

Georgia.---William Few, Abraham Baldwin.

Atteſt,

WILLIAM JACKSON, Secretary.

IN CONVENTION,

Monday September 17th, 1787.

PRESENT

The States of New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut, Mr. Hamilton from New-York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, [illegible] land, Virginia, North Caralina, [illegible] lin and Georgia:

RESOLVED,

THAT the preceding conſtitution be laid before the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it ſhould afterwards be ſubmitted to a Convention of delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people, under the recommendation of its legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification; and that each Convention aſſenting to, and ratifying the ſame, ſhould give notice thereof to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as ſoon as the conventions of nine ſtates ſhall have ratified this conſtitution, the united ſtates in congreſs aſſembled ſhould fix a day on which electors ſhould be appointed by the ſtates which ſhall have ratified the ſame, and a day on which the electors ſhould aſſemble to vote for the preſident, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this conſtitution. That after ſuch publication the electors ſhould be appointed, and the ſenators and repreſentatives elected: That the electors ſhould meet on the day fixed for the election of preſident, and ſhould tranſmit their votes certified, ſigned, ſealed, and directed, as the conſtitution requires, to the ſecretary of the united ſtates in congreſs aſſembled, that the ſenators and repreſentatives ſhould convene at the time and place aſſigned; that the ſenators ſhould appoint a preſident of the ſenate, for the ſole purpoſe of receiving, opening, and counting the votes for preſident; and, that after he ſhall be choſen, the congreſs, together with the preſident, ſhould, without delay, proceed to execute this conſtitution.

By the unanimous order of the convention,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident.
WILLIAM JACKSON, Secretary.

IN CONVENTION,

September 17, 1787.

Sir,

WE have now the honor to ſubmit to the conſideration of the united ſtates in congreſs aſſembled that conſtitution which has appeared to us the moſt adviſeable.

The friends of our country have long ſeen and deſired, that the power of making war, peace, and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correſpondent executive and judicial authorities ſhould be fully and effectually veſted in the general government of the union: but the impropriety of delegating ſuch extenſive truſt to one body of men is evident; Hence reſults the neceſſity of a different organization.

It is obviouſly impracticable in the federal government of theſe ſtates, to ſecure all rights of independent ſovereignty to each, and yet provide for the intereſt and ſafety of all—individuals entering into ſociety, muſt give up a ſhare of liberty to preſerve the reſt. The magnitude of the ſacrifice muſt depend as well on ſituation and circumſtance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with preciſion the line between thoſe rights which muſt be ſurrendered, and thoſe which may be reſerved; and on the preſent occaſion this difficulty was encreaſed by a difference among the ſeveral ſtates as to their ſituation, extent, habits, and particular intereſts.

In all our deliberations on this ſubject we kept ſteadily in our view, that which appears the greateſt intereſt of every true American, the conſolidation of our union, in which is involved our proſperity, felicity, ſafety, perhaps our national exiſtence. This important conſideration, ſeriouſly and deeply impreſſed on our minds, led each ſtate in convention to be leſs rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwiſe expected; and thus the conſtitution, which we now preſent, is the reſult of a ſpirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and conceſſion which the peculiarity of our political ſituation rendered indiſpenſible.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every ſtate is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtleſs conſider, that had her intereſts been alone conſulted, the conſequences might have been particularly diſagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reaſonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the laſting welfare of that country ſo dear to us all, and ſecure her freedom and happineſs, is our moſt ardent wiſh.

With great reſpect,
We have the honor to be, ſir,
Your excellency's moſt
Obedient and humble ſervants,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident.
By unanimous order of the Convention.
His excellency the preſident of Congreſs.

S A L T.

BEST Fine and Allum Salt to be ſold for Caſh, Wheat, Rye, or Barley, by Iſaac Craig & Co. at their Diſtillery.

Pittſburg, Sept. 5, 1787.

American Occurrences.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.

A town, we hear, has been lately laid out on the banks of the Potowmack, about 22 miles above Geo. Town, upon a dry, airy and level ſpot. It is to be called Newport. This, in all probability, will be a moſt excellent ſituation for mercantile and mechanical buſineſs, and will command a great part of the trade of the weſtern country. Wharves are now building and warehouſes erecting, as it is one of the ſafeſt and beſt harbours on the river. The lots are ſold at 5l. each, and a ground rent of one ſhilling a year.

Extract of a letter from Virginia, Auguſt 20.

"A moſt remarkable revival of religion has lately taken place in theſe quarters. Five, ten and twenty are converted in a day. Hundreds attend on divine ſervice every week day, and on Sundays thouſands— Two clergyman came into Brunſwick circuit about ſeven weeks ago, and I verily believe 300 ſouls have found peace with God ſince that time. Laſt Sunday, at a methodiſt church near Mr. Mabry's it was ſuppoſed there were 3 or 4000 hearers. Such a day I never ſaw, and I believe never was before ſeen in America. Two hundred have been converted in Suſſex, ſince the laſt methodiſt conference, and about 7000 are under deep conviction. Many perſecutors were ſtruck to the ground, and laid as though they were dead for hours."

Letters from Jamaica give a moſt deplorable account of the ſituation of the merchants and planters of that iſland. Credit is almoſt totally deſtroyed; and, to add to the private calamities of the people, a violent rage prevails againſt the adminiſtration of public affairs.

At the commencement of the arduous conteſt for our liberty and independence, we were exceſſive buſy in framing reſolutions for the eſtabliſhing and promoting manufactures; the ſpinning wheels were in motion, and the newſpapers rung with the exploits of our females. Long before the termination of the war, theſe reſolutions vaniſhed like the morning dew; and forgetful of ourſelves and our native abilities, we profuſely ſquandered away our money, and neglected our internal domeſtic labour and improvement. Reduced to poverty, the conſequences of folly ſtare us in the face, and we are now once more forming aſſociations for the encouragement of manufactures.

Pittſburgh, October 6.

In our laſt was inſerted a report of the Indians having murdered forty families on Cumberland river; we are happy in having it in our power to contradict it, as it appears from official information that the damage done amounted to the murder of only a few perſons.

The honorable George Matthews, governor of Georgia, has iſſued a proclamation, dated at Auguſta the ninth of Auguſt, ſetting forth, that, "as there is juſt reaſon to apprehend by diſpatches received from the Creek nation, hoſtilities will very ſhortly commence on the part of the Indians:" he has thought fit, by advice and of the council, to call a meeting of the aſſembly of that ſtate, to be held on Thurſday the 20th Auguſt.

We learn from Lancaſter, that the following ſingular affair is founded on facts, and confirmed by Doctor Huſton. On the evening of the eleventh ult. a young man having obtained information of ſome young women near Wright's ferry, having formed a reſolution of going in the evening to a corn field to get ſome roaſting ears of Indian corn, reſolved he would go with a white ſheet about him, to repreſent a ghoſt, and have ſome fun in fearing them; but fatal was the conſequence to him; whether he ſaw any thing which might be permitted to chaſtiſe him for his boldneſs, or what incident fell out to craze his imagination we cannot tell, but ſo it turned out, that after running through the fields for ſome hours, at laſt he reached a houſe in a manner frighted beyond deſcription; he was immediately ſeized with epileptic fits, and continued to have frequent returns of them till they put a period to his exiſtence the middle of laſt week. Doctor Huſton attended him, and ſays, when he was not in theſe fits, he was always ſcared, and imagined he ſaw ſomething terrible, and cried to be taken away from it.

This is an awful warning againſt all attempts to terrify women and children, from which no good conſequences will follow, but ſometimes thoſe that are very fatal.

A late London paper ſays, "The Americans from the great influx of Eaſt-India goods, in conſequence of their trade to China and India, direct in their own ſhips, are now running thoſe luxuries into different countries of Europe: even to Holland they are ſending tea, and by ſome recent ſeizures, both in England and in Ireland, it appears ſome of the merchants of the United States have been dealing in muſlins, ſilks, and nankins, to a very large amount.

John & William Irwin

Have juſt received at their New Store in Pittſburgh, a General Aſſortment of

GROCERIES and DRY GOODS, which they will ſell on the loweſt terms for Caſh, Peltry and Country Produce.

N. B. A generous price given in Caſh or Merchandize for good Ginſang. October 5.

BY virtue of a writ of levari facias to me directed, will be expoſed to public auction at Greenſburgh, the 12th day of October next, the following Tracts of Land, viz.

Three hundred and ten acres, called Smiths Fields, ſituate on a branch of Turtle creek and on Forbus's road, about 20 miles from Pittſburgh.

One tract of land containing one hundred and fifty-ſeven acres and one hundred and fifty-ſix perches, called Smith's Lot, ſituate near the Breaſt Works and on Forbus's road, and

One tract containing two hundred and forty-three acres and 162 perches, ſituate on Forbus's road and on a branch of Turtle creek, the property of Devereux Smith, and to be ſold by

Sept. 27, 1787. WILLIAM PERRY, ſheriff.

THE following Stray Creatures have been put into the hands of the ſubſcribers, Wood Rangers for the county of Weſtmoreland, viz. A grey Mare about 15 hands high, 12 years old; a grey Horſe about 2 years old; a black Mare about 14 years old, 13 hands high; a ſorrel Horſe 12 hands high, 4 years old; a roan Mare, 4 years old, 13 hands high, ſhe appears to have been cut for the hoaks; a ſorrel Mare 14 years old, and 14 hands high, and a bay horſe 14 years old, and 11 hands high.

JAMES GUTHRIE.
CHRISTOPHER TRUBY.

Greenſburgh, October 5, 1787.

FOR the information of the citizens of Pennſylvania, who are creditors of the United States, notice is hereby given, that agreeably to an act of general aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of March, 1786, the loan thereby opened, where certificates of debts of the United States may be funded by this ſtate, will be cloſed with the laſt day of February next.

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Comptroller General's Office,
Philad. Auguſt 30, 1787.

THE ſubſcriber begs leave gratefully to acknowledge the friendſhip of thoſe who have been pleaſed to favour his intereſt as a candidate for the office of Sheriff in the laſt annual election for Weſtmoreland county; and to ſignify his intention of offering himſelf again at the expiration of the preſent ſheriff's three years: in order to which, he would be deſirous that his name might be upon the return with him, at the enſuing and ſucceeding annual elections, until that time. JOHN CUMMINS.

Auguſt 28, 1787.

W A N T E D,

BY the ſubſcriber on Croſs-creek, in Waſhington county, a Journeyman Blackſmith, to whom good wages will be given.

JOHN MARSHEL.

Sept. 26, 1787.

BARNABAS M'SHANE,

Who has for ſome time paſt kept the Inn in Black Horſe Alley, is now removed to that old and commodious Tavern,

The Harp and Crown,

In Third Street.

HE begs leave to ſolicit the favors of his friends and the public in general, and aſſures thoſe gentlemen who formerly frequented that houſe and the Harp & Crown, that every accommodation, both for themſelves and horſes, ſhall be furniſhed in the beſt and moſt careful manner, and on the moſt reaſonable terms.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.

New-York, Auguſt 1, 1787.

PROPOSALS will be received at this office until the fifteenth day of October next, for the tranſportation of the public mails, by ſtage carriages from Portland, in Maſſachuſetts, to Savannah in Georgia, for one year, commencing the firſt of January 1788.

The following will be conſidered as indiſpenſible articles of the contracts:

That there be in each carriage, a ſecure and convenient place, with a good lock and key to it, to be appropriated ſolely to the reception of the mail.

That the mail be carried between Portland in Maſſachuſetts, and Suffolk, in Virginia, thrice in each week from May firſt to November firſt; and twice in each week from November firſt to May firſt.

And that it be carried, between Suffolk aforeſaid, and Savanna in Georgia, twice in each week from May firſt to November firſt; and once in each week from November firſt to May firſt.

That there be ſtated hours of arrival at, and departure from each poſt office; and a reaſonable time allowed for making up a mail to be forwarded from each; and that, in order to aſcertain the times of arrival and departure, the driver of each ſtage ſhall carry a way-bill to be furniſhed by the poſt-maſter general.

That the proprietors of the ſtages ſhall be anſwerable for the care and fidelity of the perſons they ſhall employ in tranſporting the mail; and, in caſe of the ſtage being delayed by accident, the mail ſhall be forwarded at the expence of the proprietors, ſo as to arrive at each office at the ſtated hours.

Bonds to be given with two ſufficient ſureties, for the performance of each contract; and the cuſtomary oaths to be taken both by the proprietors and drivers.

In caſe of a coalition exiſting, or being hereafter formed (before the expiration of the contract) between two lines of ſtages upon the ſame route, it will be expected that the contracting proprietors ſhall be anſwerable that no letters ſhall be carried by the ſtages of the other line, to the prejudice of the revenue of the general poſt-office.

The neceſſary portmantuas and bags will be furniſhed at the expence of the United States; and payment will be made quarterly, the penalties for failures, if any, being firſt deducted.

Propoſals for CONTRACTS for the following CROSS ROADS Will be received until the firſt day of December next, viz.

From Portland to Pownalborough, in the ſtate of Maſſachuſetts.

From the city of New-York to the city of Albany.

From the city of New York, by way of Danbury, to Hartford in Connecticut.

From the city of Philadelphia to the town of Vienna, in Maryland.

From the town of Baltimore to the city of Annapolis, in Maryland.

From the city of Annapolis to Leonard's town, in St. Mary's county, by the route of Upper Mariborough, Piſcataway, and Port-Tobacco.

From the city of Philadelphia to the town of Bedford, in Pennſylvania.

From Fredericksburgh in Virginia, to Hobb's Hole, on Rappahannock river, and from thence to the port of entry on Yeocomico, upon Potowmac river, and from thence to Urbanna, the port of entry on Rappahannock river.

From the town of Wilmington to Fayette-Ville, in the ſtate of North-Carolina, by the route of Elizabeth-town.

From Fayette Ville, in North Carolina, to Cambden, in South Carolina, and from thence to Charleſton, in ſame ſtate.

And from Cambden, by the route of Columbia, to Auguſta in Georgia.

The contracts for the croſs roads, are to commence on the firſt January next, and to continue for a year. The buſineſs muſt be conducted at the expence of the contracter, who will have an excluſive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, on the route he contracts for; and all the poſtage and other emoluments ariſing therefrom. The poſtage charged of theſe roads muſt not exceed the rates from time to time fixed by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the port of letters and packets on tho main poſt roads.

To prevent expence or inconvenience to perſons diſpoſed to contract, either for the main or croſs roads, they are informed that a perſonal attendance is unneceſſary at preſent: It will be ſufficient if they ſend their propoſals in writing to the poſt maſter general at his office, No. 29, Broad Way, New-York.

By order of the Poſt Maſter General,

JAMES BRYSON, Aſſiſtant.

BY virtue of a writ from the truſtees of the general loan office of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania to me directed, will be expoſed to ſale by public auction on the 10th day of October next, on the premiſes, one certain Tract of Land known by the name of Fort Hann, the property of James Hamilton, or ſo much thereof as will ſatisfy the debt and damages accrued thereon. To be ſold by

WILLIAM PERRY, ſheriff.

September 8, 1787.

BY virtue of ſundry writs of venditioni exponas to me directed, will be expoſed to ſale by public auction, at Greenſburgh, the 12th day of October next, the following Tracts of Land, viz.

One tract ſituate on the Monongahela river, in Pitt townſhip, adjoining lands of Richard Antis, John Ferry and others. Taken as the property of Conrad Winemillar.

One tract ſituate in Pitt townſhip, adjoining lands of William Elliott, John Ferry and others. Taken in execution as the property of Robert Machan deceaſed.

One tract ſituate in Salem townſhip, adjoining lands of James Dorrough and others. Taken in execution as the property of William Dorrough.

Two hundred acres of land ſituate in Roſtrover townſhip, adjoining lands of the heirs of Samuel Beckett, Joſeph Hill and others. Taken in execution as the property of William Linn.

Two hundred acres of land ſituate in Roſtrover townſhip, be the ſame more or leſs, adjoining lands of Michael Huffnagle, eſquire, the heirs of Michael Springer and others. Taken in execution as the property of William Linn, and to be ſold by

WILLIAM PERRY, ſheriff.

September 14, 1787.

THE ſubſcriber begs leave to inform the public, that the above tract of land, advertiſed for ſale by the ſheriff, as the property of Conrad Winemillar, is that which he now lives on, for which he has the moſt indiſputable title.

The public may be eaſily convinced that no title can be procured equal to that which is veſted in him, as may appear from the title itſelf, and the circumſtances relative thereto, viz.

1ſt. A full complete chain of conveyances from ſaid Winemillar to him. 2dly, A purchaſe of the oldeſt judgment and execution levied on ſaid land. 3dly, The agents for the ſtate ſubmitted to the judgment that I bought and ſaid they knew where to recover their money. All which will appear more fully in the judgment of the board of property, which is hereto ſubjoined.

At a meeting of the Board of Property, held at the Surveyor General's Houſe, the ſeventh day of May, 1787.

The hon. Charles Biddle, Eſq. vice Preſident.
The hon. William Brown.
Mr. Lukens, Surveyor General.
Mr. Kennedy, Sec. Land Office.
Mr. Johnſton, Receiver General.

Edward Ward)
v)On Caveat.
Æneas M'Calliſter)

IT appearing to the board that the only legal title to the land in queſtion is veſted in M'Calliſter, by virtue of his warrant, dated 27th June, 1786, and by divers conveyances, and other proofs, he hath as good an equitable claim thereto as that ſet up by Ward and conſidering that M'Calliſter hath paid the ſum of one hundred pounds to Ward for his equitable right, which was only a judgment of court obtained againſt a certain Conrad Winemillar, the original improver of ſaid land, for the ſum of £.87 5 8, including coſts, which judgment without a ſale by the ſheriff, can by no means alter the title. The board, therefore, are clearly of opinion, that the caveat be diſmiſſed, and patent of confirmation iſſue to M'Calliſter. (Signed)

DAVID KENNEDY, Sec. Land Office.

[L. S.] A True copy of the original remaining in the Surveyor General's Office. Certified this 10th day of May, 1787.

JOHN LUKENS, S. G.

Any perſon or perſons purchaſing under ſuch circumſtances, muſt expect to purchaſe a law ſuit without the leaſt hopes to obtain any advantage.

ÆNEAS M'CALLISTER.

[The certified copy of the above deciſion is left at the Printing-office, for the inſpection of the public.]

A Tract of land in Pitt townſhip, is to be taken in execution as the property of Robert Machan, deceaſed. Notice is given that the ſaid tract is the property of the deviſees of George Croghan.

WM. POWELL.

Pittſburgh, Sept. 28.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed, will be expoſed to ſale at Greenſburg, on Wedneſday the tenth of October next, being the ſecond day of the court of Weſtmoreland county, a houſe and lot, in Hanna's town, and ten acres of land adjoining the ſame, late the property of Robert Orr, eſq. William Perry, eſq. and David Vance. Taken in execution at the ſuit of John Lathim, and to be ſold by.

JOHN GIBSON, Coroner,
Weſtmoreland County.

September 20, 1787.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas from the ſheriff of Cumberland, to me directed, will be expoſed to ſale, by public auction, the twelfth day of October next, five hundred acres of land, adjoining lands of Reinhart Antis, Thomas Gibſon, John Ferry, Chriſtian Boucher, James Guffey, and others; ſituate in Pitt townſhip, on the river Monongahela, taken in execution as the property of Conrad Winemillar, at the ſuit of Edward Ward, and to be ſold by me,

MOSES FORD.

Sept. 20, 1787.

John Wilkins & Co.

HAVE juſt received at their ſtore in Pittſburg, a general aſſortment of GOODS, adapted to the country and ſeaſon, which they will ſell on the loweſt terms, for caſh, peltry, or country produce.

A generous price given in caſh or merchandiſe for good ginſang.

Pittſburgh, July 5, 1787.

Conveyancing.

AGREEMENTS, Aſſignments, Awards, Bargain and Sales, Bills of Sale Bonds, Covenants, Deeds, Grants, Leaſes, Letters of Attorney, Letters of Licence, Mortgages, Partnerſhip, Releaſes Settlements, Wills, &c. &c. Drawn by the ſubſcriber at his office in Chancery-lane, Pittſburgh, at a moderate price.

June 4. ROBERT GALBRAITH.

CERTIFICATES for the LAND-OFFICE

MAY be had of the ſubſcriber, at his office on the north ſide of Market-ſtreet, two doors below Fourth ſtreet and directly oppoſite that part of the market lately built, where every perſon applying may be furniſhed with the exact ſum they may have occaſion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by

THOMAS FORREST.

Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchaſe and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Alſo Houſes, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the eaſt ſide of Second-ſtreet, between Market and Cheſnut ſtreets, ſeven doors below Black Horſe-alley, Philadelphia. Who furniſhes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commiſſion.

All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office, or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury-